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campaign against Quang Dam, an editor of Su That, the newspaper of the PCI. Quang Dam reproached Hoe for taking advantage of the the autonomous organization of the Ministry of Justice to act in an independent and antagonistic manner. Quang Dam was censured by Ho Chi Minh for the affair, on the grounds, however, that it was too early to unveil Hoe's attitude publicly.

In early 1948, Hoe led a Ho Chi Minh Government mission to investigate illegal activities of high-ranking can-bo in the various zones and provincial echelons. On this occasion, Hoe energetically carried out his mission, reporting guilty can-bo, regardless of whether or not they were PCI members. Subsequently, Hoe himself was censured and only two years after Ho Chi Minh had ordered Quang Dam to stop his attack on Hoe, Hoe was told by Phan Van Dong, Vice President of the Ho Chi Minh Government, "Whether we like it or not, we must follow Socialist doctrine."

At present, the activities of the Ministry of Justice are handled by the Deputy Minister, Tran Cong Tuong, while Vu Dinh Hoe and a small staff stay at a farm about ten kilometers from Thai Nguyen.

3. Cu Huy Can. Minister of Agriculture. Member of the Democratic Party.
4. Duong Duc Hien. Minister of Youth. Member of the Democratic Party. Since the end of World War II the Ministry of Youth has been almost inactive.
5. Nguyen Van Huyen. Minister of Education. Member of the Democratic Party. All of the work of the Ministry of Education is entrusted to the Deputy Minister, Nguyen Khanh Toan. Huyen is not even permitted to attend low level conferences.
6. Hoang Minh Giam. Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs began to function only after the Ho Chi Minh Government was recognized by the Soviet bloc. Before that time the Ministry included only five persons, including the Minister and a messenger. Ho Chi Minh personally initiates all action in the Ministry.
7. Phan Ke Toai. Minister of Interior. Toai has aged a great deal since he was Governor of North Viet Nam under the Japanese. He is now very weak and is forced to use a walking stick. The work of the Ministry of Interior is handled by the Deputy Minister, Tran Duy Hung, and Toai attends only an occasional large conference, if it happens to be held near his home.
8. Chu Ba Phuong. Minister of Social Welfare. This Ministry exists in name only. At the end of World War II, Chu Ba Phuong retired to his home in Viet Yen, Bac Giang Province, but when the French attacked the area in July 1949, the Minister was invited to live in the President's palace in the Viet Bac Intersector. Viet Minh security agents were always stationed around his home in Viet Yen and he is now escorted by security guards whenever he travels. Any security post he passes has been instructed to report this fact immediately to its superior echelon.
9. Dr. Nguyen Tan Gi Trong. Director General of Information until late 1949. Trong is a Catholic intellectual and a non-Communist. When the Information and Broadcasting Services moved to Bac Kan in December 1946 with several other central government services, the Deputy Minister of Justice, Tran Cong Tuong, was assigned to assist Dr. Trong. Actually Tuong's duties were to report on the activities of Dr. Trong.

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At that time, the staff of the Information Service was made up primarily of non-Communists, most of them members of the Democratic Party. Gradually, however, some of Trong's associates joined the PCI, more from opportunism than conviction. These men insisted on the creation of a Directing Committee with complete control over the Information Service and the Director General. Because of Dr. Trong's protests, he was transferred to the post of Secretary General of the Permanent Committee of the National Assembly.

Although the title Permanent Committee of the National Assembly suggests a large and active organization, it actually includes only the Vice President, Father Pham Ba Truc, a secretary, and Dr. Trong. The President of the Committee, Ton Duc Thang, does not keep in contact with the Committee. Father Truc once stated half seriously, "A year's work for the Committee consists only of several appeals to the people on the few occasions of national festivals or commemorations."

FATHER PHAM BA TRUC. Vice President of the Permanent Committee of the National Assembly. Truc's duties consist of daily reading and attendance at holiday meetings. Occasionally he signs appeals to the people in the name of Ton Duc Thang, President of the Permanent Committee. Father Truc is sometimes invited to dinner by Ho Chi Minh.

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